W i l d l i f e   I n t e r p r e t a t i o n s

General

Soils directly affect the kind and amount of vegetation that is available to wildlife as food and cover. They also affect the development of water impoundments. The kind and abundance of wildlife that populate an area depend largely on the amount and distribution of food, cover, water, and living space. If any one of these elements is missing, inadequate, or inaccessible, wildlife will be scarce or will not inhabit the area. If the soils have the potential, wildlife habitat can be created or improved by planting appropriate vegetation, properly managing the existing plant cover, and fostering the natural establishment of desirable plants.

Soils are rated according to their potential for providing habitat for various kinds of wildlife. This information can be used in planning parks, wildlife refuges, nature study areas, and other developments for wildlife. It can also be used in selecting soils that are suitable for establishing, improving, or maintaining specific elements of wildlife habitat.

Suitability Ratings

GOOD - means that the element of wildlife habitat or the kind of habitat is easily created, improved, or maintained. Few or no limitations affect management, and satisfactory results can be expected if the soil is used for the designated purpose.

FAIR - means that the element of wildlife habitat or kind of habitat can be created, improved, or maintained in most places. Moderately intensive management is required for satisfactory results.

POOR - means that limitations are severe for the designated element or kind of wildlife habitat. Habitat can be created, improved, or maintained in most places, but management is difficult and requires intensive effort.

Description of Wildlife Habitat Elements

Grain and seed crops are seed-producing annuals used by wildlife. Examples are corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, millet, buckwheat, and sunflowers.

Grasses and legumes are domestic perennial grasses and herbaceous legumes that are planted for wildlife food and cover. Examples are fescue, bluegrass, brome grass, timothy, orchard grass, clover, alfalfa, trefoil, reed canary grass, and crown vetch.

Wild herbaceous plants are native and naturally established herbaceous grasses, forbs, and weeds, that provide food and cover for wildlife. Examples are bluestem, indiangrass, blueberry, goldenrod, lambsquarters, dandelions, blackberry, ragweed, wheatgrass, fescue, and nightshade.

Hardwood trees and the associated woody understory provide cover for wildlife and produce nuts or other fruit, buds, catkins, twigs, bark, or foliage that wildlife eat. Examples of native plants are oak, poplar, cherry, apple, birch, beech, maple, hickory, hazelnut, black walnut, and viburnum. Examples of fruit-bearing shrubs that are

commercially available and suitable for planting on soils rated good are hawthorn, honeysuckle, sumac, silky dogwood, highbush cranberry, autumn olive, and crabapple.

Coniferous plants are cone-bearing trees, shrubs, or ground cover that furnish habitat or supply food in the form of browse, seed, or fruit-like cones. Examples are pine, spruce, hemlock, fir, yew, cedar, larch, and juniper.

Wetland plants are annual and perennial wild herbaceous plants that grow on moist or wet sites, exclusive of submerged or floating aquatics. They produce food or cover for wildlife that use wetland as habitat. Examples of wetland plants are smartweed, wild millet, rushes, sedges, reeds, wildrice, arrowhead, water plantain, pickerelweed, and cattail.

Shallow water are bodies of surface water that have an average depth of less that 5 feet and are useful as habitat for wildlife. They can be naturally wet areas, or they can be created by dams or levees, or by water-control devices in marshes or streams. Examples are muskrat marshes, waterfowl feeding areas, wildlife watering developments, beaver ponds, and other wildlife ponds.

Kinds of Wildlife Habitat

Open land habitat consists of croplands, pastures, meadows, and areas that are overgrown with grasses, herbs, shrubs, and vines. These areas produce grain and seed crops, grasses and legumes, and wild herbaceous plants. The kind of wildlife attracted to these areas include bobwhite quail, pheasant, meadowlark, field sparrow, killdeer, cottontail rabbit, red fox, and woodchuck.

Woodland habitat consists of hardwood or conifers, or a mixture of these and associated grasses, legumes and wild herbaceous plants. Examples of wildlife attracted to this habitat are wild turkey, woodcock, thrushes, woodpeckers, owl, tree squirrels, gray fox, porcupine, raccoon, and deer.

Wetland habitat consists of water-tolerant plants in open, marshy or swampy, shallow water areas. Examples of wildlife attracted to this habitat are ducks, geese, herons, bitterns, rails, kingfishers, muskrat, otter, mink, and beaver.

This subsection includes:
- **(a) Wildlife Management Ratings (one or two tables)**

Wildlife Habitat

(See text for definitions of terms used in this table. Absence of an entry indicates that no rating is applicable)

Map symbol and soil name	Potential for habitat elements							Potential as habitat for—			
	Grain and seed crops	Grasses and legumes	Wild herbaceous plants	Hardwood trees	Coniferous plants	Wetland plants	Shallow water areas	Openland wildlife	Woodland wildlife	Wetland wildlife	Rangeland wildlife
15002:											
McGirk	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
60001, 60002, 60003:											
Menfro	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---
60004:											
Menfro	Poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Good	Very poor	---
60005:											
Menfro	Very poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Good	Very poor	---
60006:											
Marion	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
60007:											
Menfro	Very poor	Poor	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Poor	Good	Very poor	---
Gatewood	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Very poor	---
64000:											
Racoon	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	---
64001, 64002:											
Freeburg	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	---
64003:											
Freeburg	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Good	Good	Poor	---
66003:											
Jemerson	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Good	Good	Poor	---
66004:											
Dockery	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	---
66005:											
Deible	Fair	Good	Poor	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Fair	---
66006:											
Waldron	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	---
66007, 66008:											
Leta	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	---
66009:											
Haynie	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Good	Good	Poor	---
66010:											
Sarpy	Poor	Poor	Fair	Poor	Poor	Very poor	Very poor	Poor	Poor	Very poor	---

Map symbol and soil name	Potential for habitat elements							Potential as habitat for—			
	Grain and seed crops	Grasses and legumes	Wild herba- ceous plants	Hard- wood trees	Conif- erous plants	Wetland plants	Shallow water areas	Open- land wild- life	Wood- land wild- life	Wetland wild- life	Range- land wild- life
66011:											
Moville----------------	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	---
66012:											
Blake------------------	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	---
66013:											
Waldron----------------	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	---
70028:											
Moko-------------------	Very poor	Poor	Poor	Very poor	Poor	Very poor	Very poor	Poor	Poor	Very poor	---
Rock outcrop.											
70029:											
Moko-------------------	Very poor	Poor	Poor	Very poor	Poor	Very poor	Very poor	Very poor	Poor	Very poor	---
Rock outcrop.											
73035:											
Gravois----------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Good	Very poor	---
73088:											
Rueter-----------------	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
73089:											
Rueter-----------------	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Very poor	---
73090, 73091:											
Useful-----------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---
73092, 73093, 73094:											
Gatewood---------------	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
73095:											
Gravois----------------	Poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Good	Very poor	---
73096, 73097:											
Swiss------------------	Poor	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Very poor	---
73098, 73099:											
Plato------------------	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Good	Fair	Very poor	---
73100, 73101, 73102, 73103, 73104:											
Wrengart---------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---
73105:											
Wrengart---------------	Poor	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---

Wildlife Habitat--Continued

Map symbol and soil name	Potential for habitat elements							Potential as habitat for—			
	Grain and seed crops	Grasses and legumes	Wild herbaceous plants	Hard-wood trees	Conif-erous plants	Wetland plants	Shallow water areas	Open-land wild-life	Wood-land wild-life	Wetland wild-life	Range-land wild-life
73105:											
Gatewood----------------	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
73106:											
Mariosa-----------------	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	Poor	Fair	Fair	Poor	---
73107:											
Wrengart----------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---
Swiss-------------------	Poor	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Very poor	---
73108:											
Gravois-----------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Very poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---
Gatewood----------------	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
73109:											
Alred-------------------	Very poor	Poor	Good	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
73110:											
Gravois-----------------	Very poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Good	Very poor	---
Gatewood----------------	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
73112:											
Gunlock-----------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Very poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---
73135:											
Union-------------------	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Good	Very poor	---
74633:											
Hartville---------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	---
74634:											
Hartville---------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Good	Good	Poor	---
74635:											
Tanglenook--------------	Poor	Fair	Poor	Fair	Poor	Good	Good	Poor	Fair	Good	---
75376:											
Cedargap----------------	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very poor	Very poor	Fair	Fair	Very poor	---
75391:											
Possumtrot--------------	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Very poor	Fair	Good	Very poor	---
75395:											
Jamesfin----------------	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---

Map symbol and soil name	Potential for habitat elements							Potential as habitat for—			
	Grain and seed crops	Grasses and legumes	Wild herba- ceous plants	Hard- wood trees	Conif- erous plants	Wetland plants	Shallow water areas	Open- land wild- life	Wood- land wild- life	Wetland wild- life	Range- land wild- life
75398:											
Kaintuck-----------------	Poor	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very poor	---
75399:											
Jamesfin-----------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Good	Good	Very poor	---
75400:											
Gladden------------------	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Poor	---
75407:											
Gabriel------------------	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	---
99000. Pits, quarries											
99001. Water											
99003. Miscellaneous water											